

# Philosophy and Human Nature

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## Abstract

This research is to find out what philosophy is, to find out the philosophical views of human nature, to find out the relationship between human nature and philosophy. Philosophical thinking is knowledge, this is about knowledge starting with curiosity, certainty starting with doubt and philosophy starting with both of them. Science is a part of knowledge that is learned to be able to know everything in life. Often a person has a desire to know something. Something you want to know exists in everyday life. There are times, curiosity is just curiosity that A moment. Human nature is a servant and caliph of Allah on earth which consists of three elements, namely physical, intellectual and spiritual. This humans as servant and caliph of Allah on earth, then humans are God's creatures, creatures created in a helpless condition, needing help from other beings who have the ability to think, creatures who have reason, creatures who are always curious about everything, creatures who have the ability to speak, creatures who are able to make tools for social beings who are able to work together, creatures that are able to organize excrement to meet their needs, creatures that live on the basis of economic principles, creatures that are religious, rational beings who are free to act based on moral reasons, creatures with a social contract to respect and protect rights other people The link between human nature and philosophy also provides an understanding or awareness to humans of the meaning of knowledge about reality provided by philosophy.

## A. Introduction

Humans are perfect creatures. Humans were created on this earth equipped with various advantages compared to other creatures including lust (demonic nature), obedience/obedience/submission (angelic nature) and reason (human special nature). This is what makes humans have a high position in the presence of the creator if they can position and organize themselves as has been commanded by Allah SWT (Albina & Aziz, 2021; Rosowulan, 2019).

Ersis in his writings is the same as saying that, the most perfect creation of Allah SWT is human. One of the many indicators of human greatness as a sign of the most perfect being is the ability to think. Based on this ability to think, humans are able to build life, build culture, which is impossible for other creatures to develop. In building human culture build and develop science and technology. The development of science and technology as a "result" of human thinking makes humans able to "manage" other creatures that inhabit the earth. Allah SWT ordains humans as the Khalifah of the Earth (Saihu, 2022).

Indeed, Allah SWT did not create "humans" in this world as mere accessories and by chance but with the main task of worshiping the Creator. This is also confirmed in the Qur'an regarding the creation of humans, namely surah Az-Zariyat verse 56 which reads

إِلَّا وَالْإِنْسَ الْجَنِّ خَلَقْتُ وَمَالِيعِدُونَ

Meaning: "I did not create jinn and humans except that they worship Me" (QS. Adz-Dzariyat: 56)

From this verse, the word *Al-Insan* was chosen because the context of the word itself always describes humans as special creatures who are given advantages over other creatures, namely reason. While the word *Basyar* refers more to biological beings and the word *An-Nass* refers more to humans who are plural or social beings. With human reason can distinguish between good and bad, therefore it needs to be developed through the educational process (Hidayat & Taufikurrohman, 2022).

As humans, every time we think, some even argue, even when sleeping humans think, or at least their brains are still working which is detected from dreams. Anything is used as an object of thought; from super complex problems such as the existence of the Supreme Creator to warts that stick to the skin, why are we supplied with information from a young age. That's how anything becomes the object of human thinking, and that in fact, thinking is a process of producing knowledge. Knowledge as a product of thinking not only makes humans know who they are, who the creator is, and everything that their senses and thoughts can reach (Saihu, 2022).

Humans equipped with reason must know the essence of reason itself. Reason is a driving machine in the body that regulates the various things that every human being will do, which will review the good, bad and the consequences of what will be done, and reason is the way to obtain true faith. Faith is not perfect if it is not based on reason. Faith must be based on belief, not on opinion and reason is the source of belief in God (Dhestiana, 2019). With reason also makes humans always want to know about anything. To fulfill this curiosity, humans use the path of education. Through education, humans acquire various new knowledge and can develop this knowledge.

Philosophy is a branch of science that always uses deep, broad, radical thinking (to its roots), and holds to wisdom in seeing a problem (Sidabutar & Situmorang, 2022). In other words, philosophy always tries to find the essence or purpose behind the existence of something. Historically philosophy is the parent of science, in its development science is increasingly specified and independent, but given the many problems in life that science cannot answer, philosophy becomes the foundation for answering them. Philosophy provides substantial and radical explanations or answers to these problems. Meanwhile science continues to develop itself within the boundaries of its territory, while still being radically criticized (Mariyah et al., 2021).

In this paper, the author tries to discuss a little about human nature in terms of (overall) philosophy. In fact, what does a human live for, how should he live and what else, by looking at human nature, what does this have to do with the educational process.

Considering that humans are special creatures and will never sufficiently discuss a broad human being with just one paper, the authors really hope for suggestions and constructive criticism from the participants when later in this paper there are many errors (both statements and writing) or there are still mistakes. incomplete (less).

## B. Research Methods

This study uses research in the form of library research (library research). Qualitative research is a research procedure that uses descriptive data in the form of written and oral words from the people being observed.<sup>1</sup> Qualitative research can also be conducted to explain and analyze and interpret phenomena, social dynamics, events, beliefs, attitudes, and perceptions of other people or groups of something being studied. Thus, the qualitative research process begins by compiling the basic assumptions that will be used in the research. The data is then interpreted or interpreted. The data analysis is done by collecting data, reducing data, presenting data, and drawing conclusions. The author collects various kinds of journal articles through Google Scholar, collects electronic books through Google Books and pdf. drive, and uses the OJS Journal website and visits the library. After the material is collected, the writer looks for and then reads the material according to the theme. After reading, the author then makes notes that are considered important and relevant according to the data needed to be displayed and analyzed so that conclusions can be drawn from one data to another. The data collection techniques used in this study are; editing, organizing, discovery of research results. The sources of data needed are using primary sources.

## C. Result and Discussion

### *Philosophy*

Philosophy is said to be the mother of all knowledge on this earth. Therefore, many people think that philosophy is the most special science and occupies the highest place among all the existing sciences. Philosophy comes from the word Philosophy which epistemologically comes from *philos* or *philein* which means love and *sophia* which means wisdom or wisdom. Epistemologically it means love for wisdom or wisdom (Mariyah et al., 2021).

The word philosophy is also found in Arabic, namely *philosophy* or *philosophy*. Apart from that, there are also Indian countries that use the word *dharsana* which means to look, pay attention, contemplate, understand, continue with contemplation, then form perceptions to give conclusions, visions and beliefs. Philosophy will be related with contemplative or contemplative activities in order to get the right conclusions, then etymologically the word philosophy in Greek and Arabic as well as from India (*dharsana*) basically has the same meaning, namely the activity of contemplative thinking in order to get the essential truth in the context of making humans as creatures. wise one.

Philosophy as a science has several requirements including ontological, epistemological, and axiological basis. According to Prawironegoro (2010: 19) knowledge is a collection of knowledge that is arranged systematically which provides answers to questions: (1) ontology, namely "what" you want to know, (2) epistemology, namely "how" to acquire knowledge, and (3) axiological, that is, what is the "usefulness" of science for human life (Semadi, 2019).

Basically, the beginning of philosophical thinking is knowledge, this is about knowledge starting with curiosity, certainty starts with doubt and philosophy starts with both. Science is part of knowledge that is learned to be able to know everything in life. Often times someone has a desire to know something. Something you want to know exists in everyday life. There are times when, curiosity is just a momentary curiosity. On the other hand, sometimes there are people who want to know something because they really want to know. So, he will look for what he wants to know until he gets it. Once the thing you are looking for is found, that is what is called science. There are also times when a person wants to acquire some knowledge, that person will encounter doubts in making a decision. Doubt is what will produce a certainty. When someone's curiosity arises and encounters doubts in making a decision, that's what starts philosophy (Nurroh, 2017).

Similarly, what Adhamovich wrote in his writings said that the development of philosophy has a long history and is a special form of philosophical and social awareness. Philosophy is the oldest and most interesting human knowledge. Philosophy is the most ancient science, and its appearance dates back to the era of ancient slavery. Sources indicate that philosophy as a science was originally formed and developed in the countries of India, China, Greece and Central Asia. Philosophy, its subject, its object of study, philosophical issues are issues that have long been of concern to scientists. Early philosophy included not only the knowledge gained from observing human life, but also their own thoughts about the universe. Thoughts about philosophy have changed over time, and a philosophical understanding of the world has been expressed in various forms.

Several figures also define the meaning of philosophy, including:

1. According to Aristotle, the notion of philosophy is science which includes truth which contains metaphysics, rhetoric, logic, ethics, economics, politics and aesthetics (philosophy of beauty).
2. According to Cicero, philosophy is the 'mother' of all the arts and is the art of life.
3. According to Plato, the meaning of philosophy is a science that tries to achieve knowledge of the real truth. According to Immanuel Kant, the meaning of philosophy is a science (knowledge) which is the basis and base of all knowledge which includes four issues, namely metaphysics, religious ethics, and anthropology.
4. According to Johann Gotlich Fickte, the notion of philosophy is the basis of all knowledge which discusses all fields and all types of knowledge to seek truth from all reality.
5. According to Paul Natorp, the notion of philosophy is a basic science that determines the unity of human knowledge by demonstrating the same final basis and also carrying all of it.
6. According to Bertrand Russell, philosophy is a theology that contains various thoughts on problems about which definitive knowledge, so far, cannot be ascertained. But like science, philosophy can appeal to human reason rather than the authority of tradition or revelation.

7. According to John Dewey, philosophy is an expression of human struggle continuously in an effort to make adjustments to various traditions that shape human behavior towards scientific tendencies and political ideals that are new and not in line with recognized authorities.
8. According to MJ Langeveld, philosophy is a unit of science which consists of several scopes of problems; environmental problems, state problems (metaphysics, humans, nature, and others). The scope of knowledge issues includes; theory of truth, theory of knowledge, and logic. While the scope of value issues includes; theory of ethical values, aesthetics, values based on religion.

From the explanation above regarding the understanding of philosophy, the author can conclude that philosophy is a science that seeks to find causes in depth based on human thought and reason. Philosophy can also be a view of the life of a group of people regarding the life they aspire to. However, this philosophy can also be interpreted as an attitude of someone who is aware and mature when thinking about everything in depth and looking at the whole with all relationships.

### ***Philosophical Views of Human Nature***

Humans are very important cosmic creatures, because humans are equipped with all the attributes and conditions needed to complete their obligations and capacities as creatures of Allah SWT on this earth. Talking about humans is a discussion about how we see ourselves or others, this discussion will never be finished and will never end. Discussing human nature certainly refers to our point of view in seeing humans. In some writings or works it is also described very much about humans. In the science of mantiq, humans are called thinking animals or thinking creatures which implies that humans offer a point of view based on their thought processes. "human" is a creature or animal that has intelligence when found in reference to Indonesian words. Based on this explanation, we understand that humans are creatures who are motivated to think before they act in achieving something so that they have control over other creatures for their safety, security and well-being. Humans have individual attributes, but humans also need the help of others, implying that humans are creatures of monodualism (Sumanto, 2019).

Talking about human nature, nature contains the basic meaning/element that exists in an object. According to language, nature means truth or something that is actually true of everything. It can also be said, that the essence is the essence of everything or that becomes the soul of something. Among the world of Sufism, people are looking for the true nature of human beings, because of that words appear to search for the true self, or the same as searching for the essence of the body, heart, spirit, soul and secrets. So, human nature is the truth of man himself as a creature created by Allah SWT (Siregar, 2017).

In this situation, Ibnu Arabi, for example, further explained human nature by saying that "There is no God's creation that is better than humans, who have the ability to live, know, will, speak, see, hear, think and decide or choose. The concept Humans in an Islamic perspective are a basic idea for the sociology of mankind which makes humans a formal and material object. So, the theoretical idea, then at that time, we don't have to ask the substance that makes and gets humans and understands and knows everything about humans, namely Allah. SWT, through the Qur'an which contains mysteries about humans (Nawangsih & Achmad, 2022).

Previous research has also discussed a lot about human nature, including Nawangsih in her essay saying that nature contains basic meanings/elements that exist in an object. Humans are God's creatures who are given the mind to think before acting in doing something. In philosophy, looking at human nature gives birth to four streams, namely: all-substance which says that human nature is a substance in the form of a body. all spirits who say that human essence is spirit while the body is only a mere shadow. The flow of dualism that says human nature is a combination of spirit and body. The flow of Existentialism that sees humans as a whole and the way humans are in the world. In Islam, humans include the elements of the body (material) and the spirit (immaterial). The Qur'an mentions it in various terms such as al-basyar, al-insan, al-nas, the sons of adam, and al-ins. The naming refers to the responsibility that should be borne by humans. Humans as individual beings the concept of every human being is unique and different. This is due to the talent and potential he had since birth. Humans as social beings always need each other. Because all humans tend to communicate, interact, and socialize with each other. The implication is that Islamic education must be built on the basis of developing qalbiah and aqliah education so that it can make humans intellectually smart and commendable in behavior or morals, Islamic education makes efforts in developing human potential (Nawangsih & Achmad, 2022).

So, from some of the opinions above, we can draw the conclusion that human nature is as a servant and vicegerent of Allah on earth which consists of three elements, namely body, mind and spirit. Humans is

God's servant and caliph on earth, so humans are God's creatures, creatures created in a helpless condition, needing help from other creatures who have the ability to think, creatures who have reason, creatures who are always curious about everything, creatures that have the ability to speak, creatures that are able to make tools, social creatures that are able to work together, creatures that are able to organize excrement to meet their needs, creatures that live on the basis of economic principles, creatures that are religious, rational beings who are free to act based on moral reasons, beings with a social contract to respect and protect the rights of others.

Now, from a philosophical point of view, human nature is spirit, body and existence. An understanding of the beginnings of being human is used by humans as a reference or perspective in planning instructive goals for humans. The creation of humans that underlies this is the reason for seeking Islamic education. Studying humans from one dimension, will bring stagnation of thoughts about human capacity from one aspect and make the object static. Man himself as a person is mistaken to understand it himself (Wiranata, 2021).

### ***The Relationship between Human Nature and Philosophy***

The only creature that always discusses and makes itself a big topic in the field of study every discussion is human. So that humans become subjects as well as objects in each subject of certain scientific discussion. Above we have explained about philosophy and human nature, in essence, philosophy is a science that seeks to find causes in depth based on human thought and reason. This philosophy can also be a view of the life of a group of people regarding the life they aspire to. However, this philosophy can also be interpreted as an attitude of a person who is aware and mature when thinking about everything in depth and looking at the whole with all relationships. Where as human essence is as a servant and caliph of Allah on earth which consists of three elements, namely physical, intellectual and spiritual (Alim, 2020; Nuryamin et al., 2021). Humans are God's servants and caliphs on earth, so humans are creatures of God's creation, creatures that were created in a helpless condition, needing help from other people, creatures that have the ability to think, creatures that have reason, creatures that are always curious about everything, , creatures that have the ability to speak, creatures that are able to make tools, social creatures that are able to work together, creatures that are able to organize excrement to meet their needs, creatures that live on the basis of economic principles, creatures that are religious, rational beings that are free to act based on moral reasons , creatures with a social contract to respect and protect the rights of others.

Now what we will discuss is the relation between human nature and philosophy. The position of philosophy in human life, namely to provide an overview of how the position of philosophy is in human life, the definition of philosophy must first be restated. Philosophy means love of wisdom. So, a philosopher is a person who loves wisdom and wisdom that encourages humans themselves to become wise people. In another sense, philosophy is defined as a radical thought in the sense that it starts from the root of the problem to reach the truth through the stages of thought. Therefore, a person who philosophizes is a person who thinks consciously and responsibly with the first responsibility is to himself (Sumanto, 2019).

The link between human nature and philosophy also provides understanding or awareness to humans of the meaning of knowledge about reality provided by philosophy. Departing from the basis of the results of that fact, philosophy provides guidance for life for humans themselves. This guidance is related to something that is around humans themselves, such as status in relation to others. It is also known that the tools of human obligations include reason, taste, and will. Through reason philosophy provides life guidance to think and gain knowledge. With the existence of something or a will, philosophy provides guidance to humans about decency related to the fields of good and bad.

### **D. Conclusion**

Philosophical thinking is knowledge, this is about knowledge starting with curiosity, certainty starts with doubt and philosophy starts with both. Science is part of knowledge that is learned to be able to know everything in life. Often a person has the desire to to know something. Something you want to know exists in everyday life. There are times when curiosity is just a momentary curiosity. Human nature is a servant and caliph of Allah on earth which consists of three elements, namely physical, intellectual and spiritual. Human is God's servant and caliph on earth, so humans are God's creatures, creatures created in a helpless condition, needing help from other creatures who have the ability to think, creatures that have reason, creatures that are always curious about everything, creatures that have the ability to speak, creatures that are able to make tools, social creatures that are able to work together, creatures that are able to organize excrement to meet their needs, creatures that live on principles economic beings, religious beings, rational beings who are free to act based on moral reasons, beings with a social contract to respect and protect the



rights of other people. The link between human nature and philosophy also provides an understanding or awareness to humans of the meaning of knowledge about reality provided by philosophy.

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